

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-8 and 10-18 remain pending in the present application. Claims 4 and 9 have been cancelled. Claims 1 and 5 have been amended. Claim 18 is new. Basis for the amendments and new claims can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 / 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Yasuda, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,881,456). Claims 1, 2, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combined teachings of Yasuda, et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,881,456) and either DE 10011932 or DE 4338099. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over JP 58-126210. Claims 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combined teachings of JP 58-126210 and DE 10011932.

Claim 1 has been amended to define that each of the walls of the plurality of wall outlet portions has a multi-layered structure including a thermal insulation layer (9c), a surface member (9d) and a 3D net (9a) between the thermal insulation layer and the surface member. The 3D net has three-dimensional vent holes such that air is diffused three-dimensionally within the 3D net. The surface member defines wall outlets such that the air is exuded into the compartment. Namely, within the 3D net, the air flows in directions parallel to an extending direction of the 3D net (i.e., in directions parallel to

the surface layer) as well as in a direction toward the wall outlet portions (i.e., in a direction perpendicular to the extending direction of the 3D net). As compared with a case having different layers/members for diffusing air and for directing air toward outlets, the claimed structure including the 3D net is compact (see Specification page 18, beginning at line 9).

On the other hand, all of the cited references fail to disclose a wall with a multi-layered structure including a thermal insulation layer, a 3D net having three-dimensional vent holes for diffusing air therein, and a surface member.

Thus, Applicants believe Claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 2, 3 and 5, which ultimately depend from Claim 1, are also believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJOINDER

Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of withdrawn Claims 6-8.

NEW CLAIM

New Claim 18 is a dependent claim which defines the surface member as having air permeability and the insulation member as having imperviousness. Support for these limitations is given on page 31, lines 10 and 11, and on page 18, lines 21 and 22. Applicants believe Claim 18 reads on the elected species.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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